UNITED NATIONS

TCDC

Technical co-operation among developing countries

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Draft decision proposed by Colombia on behalf of the Group of 77 and China

Overall framework for the promotion and application of technical cooperation among developing countries (TCDC) in the 1990s

I.

The High-level Committee,

Reaffirming the importance of the implementation of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action,

Recalling the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) resolution 1992/41, which invites all parties to give first consideration to the use of technical cooperation among developing countries (TCDC) in programme and project implementation,

Recalling decision 7/6 of the High-level Committee that requested the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to prepare and report on an overall framework for the promotion and application of TCDC in the 1990s; and 7/9 on an "International consultative meeting on technical cooperation among developing countries",

Taking note of TCDC/8/4, "Report on development of a strategy of technical cooperation among developing countries in the United Nations development system" and of TCDC/8/3, Section I: "International Consultative Meeting on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries Held in Morocco in 1993",

Taking note with appreciation of the contributions of organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations and experts to the preparation of document TCDC/8/4, "Report on development of a strategy of technical cooperation among developing countries in the United Nations development system",

Aware that the TCDC policies that Governments or intergovernmental organizations may adopt will be developed within the context of their needs, capacities and development policies,

1. Commends the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco for hosting the International Consultative Meeting on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, held in Rabat, 10 and 11 February 1993, and takes note with appreciation of the recommendations of the experts as a valuable contribution to the formulation of the strategy;

2. Welcomes the strategy for the 1990s formulated in document TCDC/8/4, "Report on development of a strategy of technical cooperation among developing countries in the United Nations development system";

3. Calls on all parties to implement on a priority basis the elements of the strategy, as reflected in the above-mentioned document, taking fully into account the comments and additional proposals made by delegations regarding this report during the eighth session of the Committee;

4. Expresses reservations about the reference to the possibility of establishing an interregional fund to finance TCDC foreign exchange components; requests the Administrator to consult governments on this matter and to include the outcome of these consultations in his next biennial report;

5. Requests developing countries and organizations of the United Nations system to expeditiously take measures to strengthen their TCDC focal points by according them the appropriate status and providing adequate staff and resources;

6. Encourages all parties to consider regional and subregional mechanisms, including regional programmes, as suitable means to support individual countries in the implementation of the strategy;

7. Invites developed countries to support the TCDC modality through their bilateral cooperation activities with interested developing countries;

8. Invites donor countries to support TCDC activities through trilateral arrangements;

9. Requests the Administrator to include in his biennial report to the High-level Committee at its ninth session information on the progress in the implementation of this decision.

II.

The High-level Committee,

Taking note that increased cooperation is taking place among developing countries and their institutions through the sharing of expertise, experience and facilities,

1. Recognizes that developing countries have a primary responsibility for promoting technical cooperation among themselves, and that developed countries and the United Nations system should assist and support such activities and should play a prominent role as promoters and catalysts of technical cooperation among developing countries, in accordance with the Buenos Aires Plan of Action;

2. Expresses deep concern about the financial constraints affecting the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in particular the decrease in the Special Programme Resources (SPR) allocation for TCDC;

3. Invites the Governing Council of UNDP to maintain the current staffing level in order to ensure that the increasing work of the Special Unit is not adversely affected;

4. Invites the Governing Council of UNDP to maintain the approved SPR allocation for TCDC for the 1992-1996 cycle so as to ensure the implementation of the Special Unit's activities;

5. Urges the organizations of the United Nations development system, in particular UNDP, to increase their efforts to support TCDC activities, and improve the existing financing mechanisms, including regional, interregional and global resources;

6. Calls upon developed countries to take into account the current financial constraints affecting TCDC activities, as well as the cost and technical benefits of TCDC, and therefore to increase their support.